



U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR
OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING
Mine Site Evaluation
State Program



0034

1. Permittee/Person WEST RIDGE RESOURCES, INC.		9. Permit Number UT-007-041		10. Permit Type PP	
2. Address P. O. BOX 902		11. Field Visit Date 09/13/2000 mm - dd - yyyy		12. Purpose O	
3. City Price		14. Permit Status A		15. Site Status AP	
4. State UT		17. OSM Office # 140		16. Facility Type B	
5. Zip Code 84501		18. CCID # 		19. Land Code F	
6. Phone Number (435) 637-5385		20. M.S.H.A ID # 42-02233		21. State Abrev. UT	
7. Operator Name, if Different than Permittee 		23. AVS Permittee Entity ID Number 		22. County Name CARBON	
8. Mine Name WEST RIDGE MINE		24. State Office 			
25. Hours 4.0 a. Permit Review 6.0 b. Site Visit Time 12.0 c. Travel Time 2.0 d. Report Writing		26. Signature Block <i>Henry Austin 9/19/00</i> Signature: HENRY AUSTIN ID # 116 Printed Name: Date: 09/19/2000		27. Reviewing Official: <i>J. Fultz</i> Signature: Review Date: 9/19/00 mm - dd - yyyy Is Supplemental MSE Page Used Y/N Y	

Permit Type — Item 10 IP = Interim Program, PP = Permanent Program, NP = No Permit

Purpose Type Codes Item 12

Oxx.... Oversight
Axx.... Assistance

RFx.... Reclamation Fees
Fxx.... Federal Actions

CCR.... Citizen Complaint Referral (non site visit)
CC.... Citizen Complaint (initial site visit)
CCF.... Citizen Complaint Follow-up

Joint Inspection — Item 13 A joint inspection is when a state inspector accompanies an OSM inspector any time during the review of the mine site.

Permit Status — Item 14

A.... Active: Coal mining and reclamation activities occurring or permitted but not yet disturbed.
IN.... Inactive (Permanent Program Permit): Phase II completed or Temporary Cessation of Operations. (Interim Program Permit) Coal mining completed and reclamation activities initiated.
BR.... Bond Release: Reclamation completed and State Regulatory Authority (RA) has released all of the bond (Phase III Release.)

AB.... Abandoned: All surface and underground coal mining activities have ceased and operator has left the site without completing reclamation as defined in 30 CFR 840.11(g)
AB1... Bond Forfeiture: Bond forfeiture officially in process or completed, and reclamation in progress or not yet commenced.
AB2... Partially Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site where all bonds have been used to reclaim site, but site not reclaimed to Program standards.
AB3... Reclaimed Forfeiture: Forfeited site that has been reclaimed to Program standards.
NA.... Not Applicable: When site is unpermitted.

Site Status Codes — Item 15

ND... No Disturbance: No coal mining and reclamation operations have been started.
EX... Coal Exploration: Coal exploration operations have started and where coal mining operations have not begun.
AP... Active Coal Producing: Coal surface mining activities are occurring.
AN... Active Non-Producing: Active non-producing facility such as tipple or preparation plant.
NM... No Mining: The Permit Status is active, site is not in Temporary Cessation, no surface coal mining activity, and site not regraded.

MC... Mining Complete: No mining activity on site, site regraded and awaiting phase bond release.
TC... Temporary Cessation: The RA has granted cessation of mining pursuant to 30 CFR 816/817.131(b).
P1... Phase I Release: At least Phase I bond release granted for entire permitted area. For interim permits, partial bond release.
P2... Phase II Release: At least Phase II bond release for the entire permitted area.
P3... Phase III Release: Reclamation completed and the RA has released all bond.

NS... Non-Site Visit: Status of site not determined.
FP... Forfeiture Pending: The RA is pursuing actions to revoke the permit, collect the performance bond(s), and/or reclamation of forfeited site is in progress.
FR... Forfeited and Reclaimed: Forfeiture reclamation completed.
FO... Abandoned Site: Abandoned site that is permitted but there is no bond.
WC... Wildcat: Coal mining and reclamation operations have or are taking place and the activity is not covered by the required permits from the RA.

Facility Type Codes — Item 16

A... Surface
B... Underground
C... Preparation Plant

D... Ancillary (Haulroad, Conveyor, and/or Rails)
E... Refuse and/or Impoundment
F... Loading Facility and/or Tipple
G... Stockpiles

H... Exploration Permits
I... Notice of Intent to Explore
J... Exempt 16 and 2/3
K... Government Financed Construction Exemption

L... Remaining site permitted under 30 CFR 785.25

Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA)
Your Comments Are Important

The Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards were established to receive comments from small businesses about Federal agency enforcement actions. The Ombudsman will annually evaluate the enforcement activities and rate each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you are a small business (a business with 500 or fewer employees including those of affiliates) and wish to comment on the enforcement or compliance activities of OSM, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING

Mine Site Evaluation

State Program

Permittee/
Person

WEST RIDGE RESOURCES,

Permit
Number

UT-007-041

Field Visit
Date

09/13/2000

Continuation Page

28. Performance Standard Categories

Codes: 1=Compliance, 2=Noncompliance, 3=Not Planned, 4=Not Started, 5=Noncompliance Identified Elsewhere, 6=Previously Cited

A. Administrative 1. <u>1</u> Mining within Valid Permit 2. <u>1</u> Mining within Bonded Area 3. <u>1</u> Terms & Conditions of Permit 4. <u>1</u> Liability Insurance 5. <u>1</u> Ownership and Control 6. <u>1</u> Temporary Cessation 7. <u>1</u> AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondent 8. <u>1</u> AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay	D. Backfilling & Grading 1. <u>1</u> Exposed Openings 2. <u>1</u> Contemporaneous Reclamation 3. <u>1</u> Approximate Original Contour 4. <u>1</u> Highwall Elimination 5. <u>1</u> Steep Slopes (includes downslope) 6. <u>1</u> Handling of Acid & Toxic Materials 7. <u>1</u> Stabilization (rills and gullies)	H. <u>1</u> Subsidence Control Plan I. Roads 1. <u>1</u> Road Construction 2. <u>1</u> Certification 3. <u>1</u> Drainage 4. <u>1</u> Surfacing and Maintenance 5. <u>1</u> Reclamation
B. Hydrologic Balance 1. <u>1</u> Drainage Control 2. <u>1</u> Inspections & Certifications 3. <u>1</u> Siltation Structures 4. <u>1</u> Discharge Structures 5. <u>1</u> Diversions 6. <u>1</u> Effluent Limits 7. <u>1</u> Ground Water Monitoring 8. <u>1</u> Surface Water Monitoring 9. <u>1</u> Drainage -- Acid-Toxic Materials 10. <u>1</u> Impoundments 11. <u>1</u> Stream Buffer Zones	E. Excess Spoil Disposal 1. <u>3</u> Placement 2. <u>3</u> Drainage Control 3. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization 4. <u>3</u> Inspections & Certifications	J. Signs & Markers 1. <u>1</u> Signs 2. <u>1</u> Markers
C. Topsoil & Subsoil 1. <u>1</u> Removal 2. <u>1</u> Substitute Materials 3. <u>1</u> Storage and Protection 4. <u>1</u> Redistribution	F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments) 1. <u>3</u> Drainage Control 2. <u>3</u> Surface Stabilization 3. <u>3</u> Placement 4. <u>3</u> Inspections and Certifications 5. <u>3</u> Impounding Structures	K. <u>1</u> Distance Prohibitions L. Revegetation 1. <u>1</u> Vegetative Cover 2. <u>1</u> Timing
	G. Use Of Explosives 1. <u>3</u> Blaster Certification 2. <u>3</u> Distance Prohibitions 3. <u>3</u> Blast Survey/Schedule 4. <u>3</u> Warnings & Records 5. <u>3</u> Control of Adverse Effects	M. <u>1</u> Postmining Land Use N. Other
		General Performance Category ____ 1) _____ ____ 2) _____ ____ 3) _____

Performance Standard Categories 30 CFR Counterpart

A. Administrative.....	
1. Valid Permit.....	773.11
2. Mining within Bonded Area.....	773.11
3. Terms & Conditions of Permit.....	773.17
4. Liability Insurance.....	800.60
5. Ownership and Control.....	778.13
6. Temporary Cessation.....	842.11(e) & 816/817.131
7. AML Rec. Fees -- Non-Respondant.....	870.15(b)
8. AML Rec. Fees -- Failure to Pay.....	870.15(a)
B. Hydrologic Balance.....(816/817.41-57)	
1. Drainage Control.....	45
2. Inspections & Certifications.....	49(a)(10)
3. Siltation Structures.....	46
4. Discharge Structures.....	47
5. Diversions.....	43
6. Effluent Limits.....	42
7. Ground Water Monitoring.....	41(c)
8. Surface Water Monitoring.....	41(e)
9. Drainage--Acid - Toxic Materials.....	41(f)
10. Impoundments.....	49
11. Stream Buffer Zones.....	57
C. Topsoil & Subsoil.....(816/817.22)	
1. Removal.....	22(a)
2. Substitute Materials.....	22(c)
3. Storage and Protection.....	22(c)
4. Redistribution.....	22(d)
D. Backfilling & Grading.....(816/817.95-107)	
1. Exposed Openings.....	816/817.13, 14, 15, & 823.11 & 21
2. Contemporaneous Reclamation.....	100
3. Approximate Original Contour.....	102(a)(1)
4. Highwall Elimination.....	102(a)(2)
5. Steep Slopes (includes downslope).....	107
6. Handling of Acid & Toxic Materials.....	102(c)
7. Stabilization (rills and gullies).....	95(b)
E. Excess Spoil Disposal.....(816/817.71-74)	
1. Placement.....	71(e)
2. Drainage Control.....	71(f)
3. Surface Stabilization.....	71(g)
4. Inspections & Certifications.....	71(h)
F. Coal Mine Waste (Refuse Piles/Impoundments)(816/817.81-84)	
1. Drainage Control.....	83(a)
2. Surface Stabilization.....	83(b)
3. Placement.....	83(c)
4. Inspections and Certifications.....	83(d)
5. Impounding Structures.....	84
G. Use of Explosives.....(816/817.61-68)	
1. Blaster Certification.....	61(c)
2. Distance Prohibitions.....	61(d)
3. Blast Survey/Schedule.....	62-64
4. Warnings & Records.....	66 & 68
5. Control of Adverse Effects.....	67
H. Subsidence Control Plan.....(817.121-122)	
I. Roads.....(816/817.150-151)	
1. Road Construction.....	150(c)
2. Certification.....	151(a)
3. Drainage.....	150(b)-151(d)
4. Surfacing and Maintenance.....	150(e)-151(d)
5. Reclamation.....	150(f)
J. Signs & Markers(816/817.11)	
1. Signs.....	11(a),(b),&(c)
2. Markers.....	11(a),(b),(d),(e),&(f)
K. Distance Prohibitions.....(761.11)	
L. Revegetation.....(816/817.111-116)	
1. Vegetative Cover.....	111 & 116
2. Timing.....	113
M. Postmining Land Use.....(816/817.133)	

September 15, 2000

West Ridge Resources, Inc.
P.O. Box 902
Price, UT 84501

West Ridge Mine ACT/007/041
Complete, oversight inspection
September 13, 2000

Participants:

Michael Glasson, West Ridge Resources, Inc.
Peter Hess, Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM)
Henry Austin, Office of Surface Mining (OSM)

I participated in a complete, oversight inspection of the West Ridge Mine with the above. Weather conditions were warm and dry, with little evidence of recent surface water runoff. Ground conditions were dry throughout the areas inspected. This mine was selected by the joint DOGM / OSM evaluation team for inspection during the 2000 evaluation year, and the primary focus of the inspection was to evaluate off site impacts.

Prior to the field inspection on September 13th, I reviewed permitting documents and correspondence both at the OSM Denver office, and DOGM's Salt Lake City office. Materials reviewed included: May 1998 / BLM environmental assessment; 3/3/99 DOGM technical analysis and findings (CHIA included); 4/1/99 DOGM decision document and permit issuance; 8/30/00 permittee submittal of annual experimental practice evaluation; 8/31/00 permittee submittal of requirements to finish processing pump house amendment AM- OOD; 7/21/00 BLM letter to landowners and interested parties initiating EA process for the Whitmore Canyon Tract coal lease; 7/1/00 liability insurance document; 6/26/00 permittee's revised disturbed area boundary map and highwall stability analysis; 4/21 & 6/5/00 submittals for office pad ASCA-Z; 5/26/00 DOGM amended findings for the C Canyon road and 5/22 findings for the C Canyon security gate; 3/22 & 3/24/00 DOGM technical review and comments concerning highwall as-built submittal; 1/4/99 air quality permit approval; and the DOGM review of the 1999 West Ridge Annual Report.

Mr. Hess began the inspection with a thorough review of applicable permitting and environmental monitoring documents at the temporary West Ridge mine office trailer. Our review included: SPCC plan certified 12/30/97; current surety bond of \$2,117,000.00; July 00 electronic submittal of 2nd quarter water monitoring is current and complete including surface, ground water, and spring sampling and analysis; the sediment pond (2 cell) has not discharged since construction and monthly DMR's to Utah Division of Water Quality are current through July and complete, and there is also a permitted mine water discharge site which has not yet discharged (discharges into primary undisturbed area runoff bypass culvert);

West Ridge Mine; pg.2

(**Note: We discussed whether electronic submittal of UPDES / DMR's and other UPDES required data would eventually be possible. Receiving the monthly reporting forms from water quality in a timely manner has been a problem at this and other mine sites. This will be discussed with DOGM during our next evaluation team meeting.)

Sediment pond inspection report current through 2nd quarter 2000 and annual pond certification is current; UPDES permit is good until 4/30/2003, and the current permit area is approximately 2693 acres. We discussed the current status of several of the submittals noted above, and this concluded our records review.

We inspected all the disturbed areas at the site. Several contractors were on site working on surface facility construction. The mine is conducting development mining underground and plans call for the longwall unit at the Centennial Mine to be rebuilt and moved to West Ridge approximately mid-year 2001. As mentioned above there have been no water discharges off site to date since site construction began last year. The site is very well organized and maintained at this time. There were no off site impacts identified during the inspection. Mr. Hess made a few minor maintenance recommendations to further enhance site condition. We made stops and observations at the following during the inspection: pump house area where we discussed the appropriate submittals necessary to classify this area as a small area drainage exemption. It appears the SAE provisions should apply to this limited disturbance area; upper inlet to undisturbed area bypass culvert; topsoil stockpile and associated test plots; equipment / material storage yard is well maintained and orderly and a ground water well is in this area (permanent maintenance / shop / bath and office buildings have not been constructed yet); overview of left hand fork / ROM coal stacker- reclaimer and storage area; portal area and power substation; fan area and mine water discharge location; left hand fork undisturbed area bypass culvert inlet; truck loadout loop is well maintained and all road ditches are stable; sediment pond cells A & B contained very little water and embankments / spillways are stable; the office pad location will be adjacent / down canyon of the sediment pond cells; and all required signs and markers are in place throughout the site. This concluded the inspection.

No off site impacts were identified during the inspection, and as noted above the site is very well designed and maintained. Please address any questions concerning this inspection report to Henry Austin at haustin@osmre.gov or 303-844-1400 X1466.